

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

/073 W

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R 221610Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

DIA WASHDC

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SHAPEUSNR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: ANDREOTTI PRESENTS HIS OUTLINE PROGRAM TO
OTHER PARTIES

REF: ROME 11758

1. CONTRARY TO HIS ORIGINAL INTENT, ANDREOTTI WAS UNABLE
UNTIL TODAY TO PRESENT HIS OUTLINE PROGRAM TO THE PARTIES OF
THE SO-CALLED CONSTITUTIONAL ARC (EXCLUDING ONLY THE EXTREMES
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OF RIGHT AND LEFT). BY TONIGHT HE WILL HAVE MET WITH ALL OF

THEM IN A SECOND ROUND OF ENCOUNTERS FOLLOWING SAME ORDER:
THE SOCIALISTS FIRST AND THE COMMUNISTS LAST.

2. FIRST REPORTS OF ALL IMPORTANT ENCOUNTER WITH SOCIALISTS PROVIDE SOME BASIS FOR OPTIMISM, BUT REACTION TO ANDREOTTI PROPOSED PROGRAM AND PROCEDURES DEFERRED BY SECRETARY CRAXI AND OTHER SOCIALIST SPOKESMEN TO PSI'S DIRECTORATE MEETING TOMORROW (JULY 23). WITH CLEAR REFERENCE TO THE PCI'S TIME-MARKING FORMAL STANCE, CRAXI EMPHASIZED TO NEWSMEN THAT PSI WILL DECIDE "AUTONOMOUSLY," WITHOUT WAITING FOR OTHERS TO PRONOUNCE THEMSELVES. MANCINI FOLLOWER DI VAGNO WHO IS MEMBER OF SOCIALIST DELEGATION OPINED THAT ANDREOTTI MAY BE IN POSITION TO DECLARE HIS TASK COMPLETE IN ABOUT A WEEK. HE FORESAW NEW ROUNDS OF CONSULTATION, REPEATED SOCIALIST DESIRE FOR COLLEGIAL MEETINGS, BUT DID NOT FORECLOSE A SOLUTION WITHOUT THEM.

3. FOLLOWING SOCIAL DEMOCRATS' (PSDI) MEETING WITH ANDREOTTI, SARAGAT SOFTENED RIGID POSITION HE TOOK YESTERDAY WHICH EXCLUDED THAT PSDI COULD GO BEYOND ABSTENTION FOR A DC MONOCOLORE. HOWEVER, IT REMAINS UNLIKELY THAT PARTY WILL TAKE A STANCE DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF SOCIALISTS. NO ONE EXPECTS LATTER TO GIVE MORE THAN ABSTENTION. PSDI DIRECTORATE ALSO CONVOKED FOR TOMORROW MORNING. REPUBLICANS (PRI) DECIDING THEIR STANCE IN NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING THIS EVENING. HITHERTO, PRI HAS EXCLUDED DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN A GOVERNMENT NOT INCLUDING THE PSI.

5. MOST IMPORTANT PART OF ANDREOTTI'S OUTLINE PROGRAM IS ITS INTRODUCTION. ANDREOTTI ADMITS THAT HIS 54 PAGES OF "NOTES" DO NOT CONSTITUTE A PROGRAM, BUT ONLY "BRINGS TO LIGHT" THE PROGRAMMATIC COMMON DENOMINATORS HE HAS GATHERED FROM HIS CONSULTATIONS THUS FAR. HE EVEN ADMITS THAT SOME OMISSIONS AND INCONSISTENCIES MAY BE EVIDENT. NEVERTHELESS, HE ARGUES THAT IT SHOULD PROVIDE A BASIS FOR "ADEQUATE CONSENT" IN GENERAL, AND WIDE CONSENT ON MANY POINTS. HE GOES ON TO ARGUE THAT A PROPER PROGRAM CAN ONLY BE DRAFTED AFTER "POSITIONS ARE CONSOLIDATED" (I.E., AFTER A POLITICAL SOLUTION IS REACHED), AND AFTER IT CAN BE ELABORATED WITH THE HELP OF THE INSTITUTIONAL BUREAUCRACY. IN SPITE OF ALL THIS, ANDREOTTI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSISTS THAT HIS "CLEAR STRATEGIC AND PROCEDURAL PROGRAM INDICATIONS...WITH PRECISE DEADLINES FOR REALIZATION, AND THE CREDIBILITY AND REALISM OF THE COMMITMENTS, CAN BE SUFFICIENTLY VERIFIED."

6. COMMENT: ANDREOTTI'S TACTIC IS SHREWD AND TENDS TO CONFIRM SPECULATION THAT, IF NECESSARY, HE INTENDS TO GO TO PARLIAMENT WITH NO PRE-CONSTITUTED MAJORITY, PRESENT HIS PRO-

GRAM, AND FORCE OTHER PARTIES TO GIVE HIM HIS MAJORITY. MANY
OBSERVERS NOW SEE A DC MONOCOLORE, BASED MORE ON ABSTEN-
TIONS THAN POSITIVE VOTES, AS THE FINAL OUTCOME. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL LEADERS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME11852
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760283-0273
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760732/aaaabbry.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ROME 11758
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANDREOTTI PRESENTS HIS OUTLINE PROGRAM TO OTHER PARTIES
TAGS: PINT, IT, (ANDREOTTI, GIULIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006